

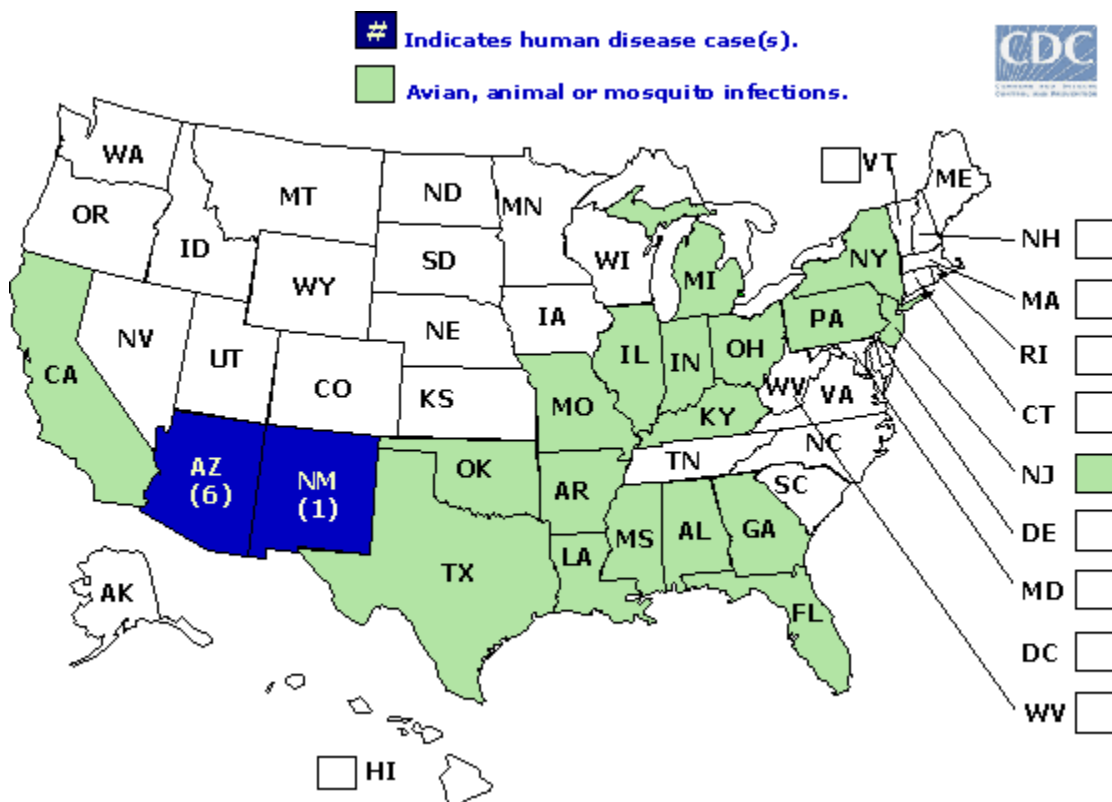


## West Nile Virus Newsletter

For the second year, the Department of Health (DOH) is using this electronic newsletter as a regular communication tool for West Nile virus (WNV). It will be provided routinely throughout the summer to keep our partners informed about WNV in Washington State, as well as information from other areas of the country.

### Surveillance News

#### 2004 West Nile Virus Activity in the United States (reported to CDC as of June 8, 2004)\*



As of June 8, 2004, two states had reported a total of seven human cases of WNV illness to CDC through ArboNET. Six cases were reported from Arizona and one case from New Mexico. Four (57%) of the cases occurred in males; the median age of patients was 53 years (range: 22- 69 years), and the dates of onset of illness ranged from May 9, 2004 to June 1, 2004.

In addition, during 2004, a total of 334 dead corvids and 55 other dead birds with WNV infection have been reported from 16 states, and seven WNV infections in horses have been reported from three states (Alabama, Arizona, and Texas). WNV seroconversions have been reported in 64 sentinel chicken flocks from four states (Arizona, California, Florida, and Louisiana), and 58 WNV-positive mosquito pools have been reported from six states (Arizona, California, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania).

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## California Confirms Human Case of West Nile Virus

California Department of Health Services

SACRAMENTO - A 40-year-old San Bernardino County woman has been infected with WNV, the first confirmed human case of the disease in California this year, Dr. Richard Joseph Jackson, public health officer of the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), announced on June 8, 2004. The woman sought medical care in May for fever, muscle aches, headache, backache and diffuse rash. She has since recovered.

"With our first confirmed human illness from WNV this year and detection of the virus in dead birds, mosquitoes and sentinel chickens in southern California, public health officials are intensifying their surveillance for the virus," Jackson said.

Tests conducted by the CDHS Viral and Rickettsial Diseases Laboratory in Richmond confirmed the patient's diagnosis.

This year, WNV has been detected in birds and mosquitoes in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

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## WNV in Idaho Horse

Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

BOISE, Idaho – The Idaho State Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare jointly announced June 4, 2004, that a horse in Canyon County has tested positive for the WNV.

"The horse is doing fine and is expected to make a full recovery," stated Dr. Marilyn Simunich, Department of Agriculture veterinarian medical officer. "The horse was vaccinated last year, and received a booster shot this spring." The preliminary West Nile test was conducted by the Department of Agriculture and confirmed as positive by The National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. The National Veterinary Services Laboratory is the national reference lab for WNV infections in animals.

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# Municipalities Using Commercial Pest Control Operators

By Stephanie Greene, Eden Advanced Pest Technologies

Some municipalities in Washington are contracting with commercial pest control operators (PCOs) for mosquito control. Controlling mosquitoes is typically outside a municipality's area of expertise. An experienced PCO can provide the necessary skills for intervention and treatment.

"It was much easier and more cost effective to outsource the City of Auburn's mosquito management program," said William Scheder, City of Auburn Water Resource Technician. "We did not have the necessary manpower, time to implement training, or the facilities to store control materials."

Jack Marlow of the Washington Pest Control Operators Association says, "Mosquito control does not have to be expensive or involve widespread spraying. Surveillance is key because it allows for good decision making, such as whether there is a significant number of a disease vector to justify control measures and where precise applications should be targeted."

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## Commercial Pest Control Operators and NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Permit Coverage

By Ben Hamilton, Washington Department of Health

Commercial pest control operators (PCOs) licensed for aquatic mosquito control can obtain permit coverage through DOH to control mosquito larvae on private or publicly owned water bodies. PCOs must specify the water bodies they intend to treat on their initial permit application. Once permit coverage is approved by the DOH, the PCO can add other contracted water bodies to their original application. Several PCOs have received permit coverage through DOH this year.

Local governments often get questions about controlling mosquitoes coming from privately owned water bodies. If the privately owned water body does not fall within a mosquito control district, the owner of the water body can hire a PCO to do mosquito control. A PCO can apply for permit coverage on behalf of the landowner needing mosquito control. The landowner also has the option of obtaining the necessary license from the Washington Department of Agriculture and NPDES coverage from DOH.

To request a list of PCOs licensed for aquatic mosquito control, contact Ben Hamilton at [Benjamin.Hamilton@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Hamilton@doh.wa.gov) or 360.236.3364. For information about the aquatic mosquito permit please see [www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/WNV/Permit.html](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/WNV/Permit.html).

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## WNV Web Resources

Washington State Department of Health [www.doh.wa.gov/wnv](http://www.doh.wa.gov/wnv)

Center for Disease Control <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/>

Washington State University Cooperative Extension <http://wnv.wsu.edu/>

Cornell University, Center for Environment <http://www.cfe.cornell.edu/erap/WNV>

Washington State Department of Agriculture

<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/Diseases/WestNileVirus/default.htm>

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## Article Submission

We are interested in receiving articles for future publications of the WNV newsletter. Please submit articles to Tom Gibbs, [tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov).

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## Community Comments

Let us hear your comments on this newsletter, your needs, or things you would like to see, by sending them to Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391 or [maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov](mailto:maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov).

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## DOH Contact List for West Nile Virus

### **General Public Toll-Free Hotline 1.866.78VIRUS**

#### **Publications: Brochures/Response Plan/Fact Sheets**

Laura Harper, 360.236.3380, or [laura.harper@doh.wa.gov](mailto:laura.harper@doh.wa.gov).

#### **Surveillance: Mosquito**

Jo Marie Brauner, 360.236.3064, or [jomarie.brauner@doh.wa.gov](mailto:jomarie.brauner@doh.wa.gov).

#### **Surveillance: Dead bird surveillance, horses, case reporting, laboratory assistance, and general WNV response**

Tom Gibbs, 360.236.3060, or [tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov).

#### **NPDES: Training, technical assistance**

Ben Hamilton, 360.236.3364, or [benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov](mailto:benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov).

#### **WNV in Humans: Clinical information, case reporting, and laboratory testing**

Call your local health jurisdiction or DOH Communicable Disease Epidemiology, 206.361.2914 or 877.539.4344.

#### **Assistance with news releases and media response**

Donn Moyer, 360.236.4076, or [donn.moyer@doh.wa.gov](mailto:donn.moyer@doh.wa.gov).

Tim Church, 360.236.4077, or [tim.church@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tim.church@doh.wa.gov).

#### **WNV Program Management**

Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391, or [maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov](mailto:maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov).

#### **WNV Coordinator**

Tom Gibbs, 360.236.3060, or [tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov).

#### **To subscribe to this newsletter**

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